



EasyJet in Lyon and in Roissy CDG

05_2008

EasyJet, 2nd largest airline in France

Founded by the Haji-Ioannou family in 1995, the British low-cost airline is currently ranked the 4th largest airline in Europe and the 2nd largest in France. On the strength of a fleet of 137 airplanes (Airbus A319 and Boeing 737) the company transported in 2007 over 38 million passengers in the world. In France, the number of EasyJet passengers increased to close to 6 million the same year.

With the founding family remaining as major shareholders, the low-cost airline had global turnover of 1.8 billion pounds sterling (2.3 billion euros) and profit of £202 million (256 million euros).

2007 marked the 10th anniversary of EasyJet's arrival in France. EasyJet previously established two bases in France, at Orly airport and the international airport Bâle-Mulhouse. France is an arrival or departure point for over 50 routes.

Two new EasyJet bases at Lyon Saint-Exupéry and Paris Charles-de-Gaulle airports

EasyJet sees great potential for development in France. The British airline thus decided to strengthen its presence in the country with its announcement at the end of 2007 with the opening of two new bases at Paris Charles de Gaulle (130 jobs) and Lyon Saint-Exupéry (80 jobs).

The establishment of two new bases creates 210 direct jobs and represents an investment of 600 million euros over four years. The Paris Charles-de-Gaulle airport base is the company's 18th European base.

In operation since the start of 2008, these bases enable the company to welcome close to two million additional passengers.

Why choose France ?

EasyJet chose France over other locations for several strategic reasons:

- ✓ Strategic geographic position at the economic and political heart of Europe;
- ✓ The weak level of penetration of low-cost companies in France: 19 % compared to the European country average of 37 %, which makes the French air transportation sector very attractive;
- ✓ Access to a large potential consumer market since France is the No. 1 tourist destination in the world with over 80 million tourists in 2007;
- ✓ Specific development opportunities offered by the Ile-de-France region.

"We came to France, and more specifically to the Ile-de-France region, because the country offers many opportunities on a political, geographical and cultural level. It is situated right at the heart of Europe and that is precisely where we want to be."

Toby NICOL, Communications Director, EasyJet